

DISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN CANNON.

JANUARY 30, 1897.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. CATRON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 8042.]

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 8042) authorizing and directing the distribution of certain cannon in the Territory of New Mexico abandoned by the Confederate forces, submit the following report:

When the invasion of New Mexico by the Confederate forces under General Sibley from Texas was stopped and those forces defeated and driven back, they buried 8 pieces of bronze cannon at Albuquerque and 12 pieces at Santa Fe. The 8 left at Albuquerque have since been dug up. The location of the 12 at Santa Fe is well known.

These cannon are not borne on any returns of the Government. They are entirely abandoned by all public authority, but no one has the right to dispose of them. The bill proposes to dispose of them to certain cities in New Mexico and Texas and to certain educational institutions and Grand Army posts in New Mexico. It is in accordance with the wish of the people of New Mexico. It protects the United States from all costs and expense.

The committee recommend its passage.